GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1325
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
INDUCTION OF AJT IN AIR FORCE
Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Air Force (IAF) has inducted Advanced Jet Trainers (AJTs) to train rookie pilots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of the twin seater AJT Hawks; and

(d) the extent to which IAF will be benefited after the induction of AJT?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Government have approved induction of 66 Hawk Advanced Jet Trainer (AJT) aircraft from M/s. BAE Systems of the United Kingdom. Twenty four such aircraft will be supplied by BAE Systems in Flyaway condition and the remaining 42 aircraft will be licensed manufactured in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). Four aircraft have been delivered by M/s. BAE Systems in the United Kingdom. Out of these, two aircraft have reached Air Force Station Bidar on 12.11.2007.

(c) The twin seater Hawk AJT is a transonic, ground attack/trainer aircraft, powered by a single Rolls Royce Adour Mk 871 turbo fan engine. It provides basic, advanced and weapons training. The aircraft is equipped with modern avionics.

(d) The induction of Advanced Jet Trainer will help IAF to ensure safe and smooth transition of young trainee pilots to high performance/technology aircraft in front line fighter squadrons.